

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 105

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 51

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 105—Relative to Children’s Dental Health Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State June 12, 2012.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 105, Hayashi. Children’s Dental Health Month.

This measure would declare the month of February 2012 as Children’s Dental Health Month.

WHEREAS, In 2007, Americans made approximately 500 million dental visits and spent an estimated \$98.6 billion on dental services; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 78 percent of Americans have at least one cavity by the age of 17 and for the first time in 40 years, tooth decay in young children is on the rise. Of the 4 million children born each year, one-quarter will have at least one cavity by the time they reach kindergarten and one-half by 2nd grade; and

WHEREAS, The oral health of children is important because untreated tooth decay is progressive and causes pain and infections that may lead to problems with eating, speaking, playing, and learning, and can be devastating to children’s long-term health, educational achievements, self-image, and overall success; and

WHEREAS, Tooth decay (dental caries) affects children in the United States more than any other chronic infectious disease, and 80 percent of Americans have some form of periodontal gum disease; and

WHEREAS, Without immediate action, the impact of tooth decay among today’s young children will be felt for years to come. Oral health care has a significant and lasting impact on the productivity of our existing and future employees and leaders; and

WHEREAS, Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums, and the American Dental Association’s messages and materials have reached millions of people in communities across the country; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby proclaims the month of February 2012 as Children’s Dental Health Month; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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